

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-10 and add claims 11-34 as follows:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

11. (New): A recording medium comprising:

a first area including meandering groove tracks on which the recording information is to be recorded; and

a second area where a phase pit string corresponding to control data is arranged meanderingly,

wherein the meandering amplitude of the second area is different from the meandering amplitude of the first area.

12. (New): The recording medium according to claim 11, wherein:

the phase pit string in the second area has a pit depth so that it enables the control data to be read and reading of other data overwritten on the phase pit string is prevented.

13. (New): The recording medium according to claim 11, further comprising a third area where a phase pit string corresponding to predetermined data is arranged meanderingly, wherein the meandering amplitude of the third area is different from at least one of either the meandering amplitude of the first area or the meandering amplitude of the second area.

14. (New): The recording medium according to claim 13, wherein the meandering amplitude of the second area and the meandering amplitude of the third area are set so that

output levels of wobble signals extracted from the respective areas are approximately equal to an output level of a wobble signal extracted from the first area.

15. (New): The recording medium according to claim 13, wherein:
the third area includes pre-pits including address information representing a recording position on the recording medium formed adjacent to the phase pit string; and
the phase pit string in the third area has a pit depth so that it enables the pre-pits to be read and reading of other data overwritten on the phase pit string is prevented.

16. (New): The recording medium according to claim 13, wherein pre-pits including address information representing a recording position on the recording medium are formed on the first area and the third area.

17. (New): The recording medium according to claim 13, wherein a pit depth on the third area is set so as to be equal to a depth of the groove tracks of the first area.

18. (New): The recording medium according to claim 13, wherein
on the first area, a depth of the groove tracks is set to not less than 20 nm and to not more than 35 nm,
on the second area, a pit depth is set to not less than 60 nm and to not more than 90 nm,
and
on the third area, a pit depth is set to not less than 20 nm and to not more than 35 nm.

19. (New): The recording medium according to claim 18, wherein
on the first area, the depth of the groove tracks is set to 30 nm,
on the second area, the pit depth is set to 80 nm, an average duty of the pit string is set to
approximately 50%, and the meandering amplitude is set to be approximately 2.7 times as much
as that of the first area, and

on the third area, the pit depth is set to 30 nm, an average duty of the pit string is
approximately 80%, and the meandering amplitude is set to be approximately 1.3 times as much
as that of the first area.

20. (New): The recording medium according to claim 13, wherein the meandering
amplitude of the third area is set so as to be equal to the meandering amplitude of the first area.

21. (New): The recording medium according to claim 13, wherein
on the first area, a depth of the groove tracks is set to 30 nm,
on the second area, a pit depth is set to 80 nm, an average duty of the pit string is set to
approximately 50%, and the meandering amplitude is set so as to be approximately 2.7 times as
much as that of the first area, and

on the third area, a pit depth is set to 50 nm, an average duty of the pit string is set to
approximately 80%, and the meandering amplitude is set to be equal to that of the first area.

22. (New): A recording medium producing apparatus for producing a recording
medium, using a disc master, comprising:

a first area forming device which cuts groove tracks meanderingly on the disc master using a light beam modulated by a wobble signal so as to form a first area onto which the recording information is to be recorded; and

a second area forming device which meanderingly cuts a phase pit string corresponding to control data on the disc master, thereby forming a second area,

wherein in the second area forming device, a degree of modulation of the light beam for cutting the phase pit string is set so that the meandering amplitude of the second area is different from the meandering amplitude of the first area.

23. (New): The recording medium producing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein:
the second area forming device forms the second area so that the phase pit string in the second area has a pit depth which enables the control data to be read and prevents reading of other data overwritten on the phase pit string.

24. (New): The recording medium producing apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising a third area forming device which meanderingly cuts a phase pit string corresponding to predetermined data on the disc master, thereby forming a third area,

wherein in the third area forming device, a degree of modulation of the light beam for cutting the phase pit string is set so that the meandering amplitude of the third area is different from at least one of either the meandering amplitude of the first area or the meandering amplitude of the second area.

25. (New): The recording medium producing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein in the second area forming device and the third area forming device, a degree of modulation of the light beam for cutting the phase pit string is set so that the output levels of wobble signals extracted from the respective areas are approximately equal to an output level of the wobble signal extracted from the first area at the time of reproduction from the recording medium produced by using the disc master.

26. (New): The recording medium producing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the first area forming device and the third area forming device form pre-pits.

27. (New): The recording medium producing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein: the third area forming device forms the third area so that the phase pit string in the third area has a pit depth which enables the pre-pits to be read and prevents reading of other data overwritten on the phase pit string.

28. (New): A recording medium producing method for producing an recording medium, using a disc master, comprising:

a first area forming process of cutting groove tracks meanderingly on the disc master using a light beam modulated by a wobble signal so as to form a first area onto which the recording information is to be recorded; and

a second area forming process of meanderingly cutting a phase pit string corresponding to control data on the disc master, thereby forming a second area,

wherein at the second area forming process, a degree of modulation of the light beam for cutting the phase pit string is set so that the meandering amplitude of the second area is different from the meandering amplitude of the first area.

29. (New): The recording medium producing method according to claim 28, wherein:
at the second area forming process, the second area is so formed that the phase pit string in the second area has a pit depth which enables the control data to be read and prevents reading of other data overwritten on the phase pit string.

30. (New): The recording medium producing method according to claim 28, further comprising a third area forming process of meanderingly cutting a phase pit string corresponding to predetermined data on the disc master, thereby forming a third area,
wherein at the third area forming process, a degree of modulation of the light beam for cutting the phase pit string is set so that the meandering amplitude of the third area is different from at least one of either the meandering amplitude of the first area or the meandering amplitude of the second area.

31. (New): The recording medium producing method according to claim 30, wherein at the second area forming process and the third area forming process, a degree of modulation of the light beam for cutting the phase pit string is set so that the output levels of wobble signals extracted from the respective areas are approximately equal to an output level of the wobble

signal extracted from the first area at the time of reproduction from the recording medium produced by using the disc master.

32. (New): The recording medium producing method according to claim 30, wherein at the first area forming process and the third area forming process pre-pits are formed.

33. (New): The recording medium producing method according to claim 30, wherein:
at the third area forming process the third area is so formed that the phase pit string in the third area has a pit depth which enables the pre-pits to be read and prevents reading of other data overwritten on the phase pit string.

34. (New): An information recording apparatus which records information onto the recording medium comprising a first area including meandering groove tracks on which the information is to be recorded, and a second area where a phase pit string corresponding to control data is arranged meanderingly, wherein the meandering amplitude of the second area is different from the meandering amplitude of the first area, wherein the apparatus extracts the wobble signal from a signal from the groove tracks and controls recording operation based on the wobble signal.